

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP15-137-000]

Rockies Express Pipeline LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Zone 3 Capacity Enhancement Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Zone 3 Capacity Enhancement Project, proposed by Rockies Express Pipeline LLC (REX) in the above-referenced docket. REX requests authorization to construct and operate natural gas compression facilities in Fayette, Pickaway, Muskingum, and Warren Counties, Ohio and Decatur County, Indiana. The REX Zone 3 Capacity Enhancement Project would provide an additional 800 million cubic feet per day of east-to-west transportation service.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Zone 3 Capacity Enhancement Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The proposed REX Zone 3 Capacity Enhancement Project includes the following facilities:

- one new 49,428 horsepower (hp) compressor station in Pickaway County,
   Ohio (Columbus Compressor Station);
- one new 31,791 hp compressor station in Fayette County, Ohio
   (Washington Court House Compressor Station);
- one new 37,038 hp compressor station in Decatur County, Indiana (St. Paul Compressor Station);
- an additional 38,400 hp of compression, gas cooling facilities, and a new power and control building at the existing Chandlersville Compressor
   Station in Muskingum County, Ohio; and
- gas cooling facilities and a new power and control building at the existing
   Hamilton Compressor Station in Warren County, Ohio.

The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; newspapers and libraries in the project area; and parties to this proceeding.

In addition, the EA is available for public viewing on the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Public Reference Room

888 First Street NE, Room 2A

Washington, DC 20426

(202) 502-8371

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before **September 30, 2015.** 

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the project docket number (CP15-137-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

- (1) You can file your comments electronically using the <u>eComment</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>Documents and Filings</u>. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;
- You can also file your comments electronically using the <u>eFiling</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>Documents and Filings</u>. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "<u>eRegister</u>." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or
- You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 First Street NE, Room 1A

Washington, DC 20426

Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18

CFR 385.214). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. The Commission grants affected landowners and others with environmental concerns intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which no other party can adequately represent. Simply filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but **you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.** 

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search," and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., CP15-137). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See the previous discussion on the methods for filing comments.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which

allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This

can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically

providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to

the documents. Go to <a href="www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp">www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp</a>.

Dated: August 31, 2015.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

Billing Code 6717-01-P

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